

REMARKS

Claims 27-36 are pending. Claims 1 to 26 are currently canceled. Claims 27 to 36 have been added. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Please cancel claims 7-15 and 16-25 without prejudice.

New claims 27-36 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, on pages 3-5 of the specification as filed.

§ 102/103 Rejections

Claims 7-15 and 17-25 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as purportedly being anticipated, or in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Kojima (US Patent 4654255).

The Applicants present new claims 27-36 and respectfully request that the Examiner enter these claims. With respect to new claim 27, the Examiner has not shown that Kojima teaches or suggests an acrylic thermally conductive composition that comprises a thermally conductive filler and a crystalline aliphatic acrylic polymer comprising at least 50 wt% of a homopolymer or copolymer of one or more crystalline aliphatic acrylic monomers containing 18 or more carbon atoms. On the contrary, Applicants respectfully assert that Kojima teaches epoxy group-containing olefin polymers that may be copolymers of olefins and unsaturated glycidyl group-containing monomers, and terpolymer or multi-polymers of olefins, unsaturated glycidyl group-containing monomers and ethylenically unsaturated monomers. The ethylenically unsaturated monomers are present in 0-49.95 wt% (see col. 2, lines 23-33). (emphasis added) The only unsaturated monomer that meets the aliphatic acrylic monomer containing 18 or more carbon atom limitation of Applicants' claim 27 is "octadecyl" (see col. 2, line 55 or Kojima) but that is listed as an ethylenically unsaturated monomer. In contrast, Applicants' crystalline aliphatic acrylic polymer comprises at least 50 wt%. Therefore Kojima does not anticipate Applicants' claim 27. Furthermore, the Examiner has not shown that there is a teaching or suggestion in Kojima to make crystalline aliphatic polymers that comprise at least 50 wt% of a homopolymer or copolymer or one or more crystalline aliphatic acrylic monomers containing 18 or more carbon atoms in Kojima. For

at least this reason, Applicants' claim 27 overcomes the rejection under 35 USC § 102(b) as purportedly being anticipated, or in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Kojima (US Patent 4654255) and the claim is now patentable.

Claims 28-36 depend upon claim 27 and add further limitations thereto. Since claim 27 is patentable over Kojima, likewise so are claims 28-36.

The rejection of claims 27-36 under 35 USC § 102(b) as purportedly being anticipated, or in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over Kojima (US Patent 4654255) has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 7-9, 15, 17-19 and 25 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tatsuo et al (JP 2002-308919). Claims 7-9, 15, 17-19, and 25 have been canceled without prejudice. New claims 27-36 have been added. Applicants respectfully request that the claims be entered.

With respect to claim 27, the Applicants present new claim 27 in response to the final rejection of the original claims over Tatsuo as noted above. With respect to the 35 USC § 102(b) rejection, the Examiner has not shown that Tatsuo has all of the limitations of Applicants' claim 27. For example, Applicants' claim 27 is to a crystalline aliphatic acrylic polymer (emphasis added). The acrylic resin composition of Tatsuo has at least one phenyl group in the molecule (see abstract of Patent Abstracts of Japan). For at least this reason, Tatsuo does not anticipate Applicants' claim 27. Claims 28-36 depend upon claim 27 and add further limitations thereto. Since claim 27 is novel over Tatsuo, likewise so are claims 28-36. With the presentation of the new claim set, the rejection of the claims under 35 USC § 102(b) as being anticipated by Tatsuo et al (JP 2002-308919) has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.

Examination and reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

By: /Stephen F. Wolf/

Stephen F. Wolf, Reg. No.: 45,502

Telephone No.: 651-736-9485

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833